



Handwritten: Election
Chang
2-2802

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Mathieu et al.

Appl. No. 09/527,931

Filed: March 17, 2000

For: **Methods for Planarizing a
Semiconductor Contactor**

Confirmation No. 3919

Art Unit: 3729

Examiner: Chang, R.

Atty. Docket: P114-US

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Reply To Requirement For Election Of Species

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

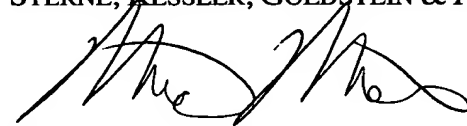
In reply to the Office Action dated **January 24, 2002**, Applicants hereby provisionally elect species II. Claims 13-14, 16-17, 19, and 20-27 read on such species. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

Applicants assert the right to claim additional species in the event that a generic claim thereto is found to be allowable in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.141(a). This election is made **without traverse**. Consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

It is believed that extensions of time are not required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: 2/25/02
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